

Remarks:

Claims 1-14, 19, 21, and 32-39 are pending in the application. In the final Office action dated March 28, 2008, claims 1-7, 9-14, 19, 21, 32, 33, and 35-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103, and claims 34, 38, and 39 were deemed allowable.

In response to the Office action, Applicant has canceled claims 1, 6, 19, 32, and 33; and amended claims 2-4, 7, 10, 12, 21, and 35. Applicant respectfully requests that the above amendments be entered, as they are consistent with the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter, and therefore place the application in condition for allowance.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9-14, 19, 21, 32, 33, 36, and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schuler et al. (U.S. Patent Publication 2005/0051162) in view of Cox et al. (U.S. Patent no. 6,234,167).

Without acknowledging the propriety of the rejection, Applicant has canceled claims 1, 6, 19, 32, and 33, and amended claims 2-4, 7, 10, 12, and 21 so that claims 2-4, 7, 9-14, 21, 36, and 37 depend directly or indirectly from allowable claims 34 or 39. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the canceled subject matter in a continuing application.

In view of the above amendments, Applicant suggests that the above rejections are rendered moot.

Claims 5 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(c) as being unpatentable over Schuler et al. (U.S. Patent Publication no. 2005/0051162) and/or Cox et al. (U.S. Patent no. 6,234,167) and further in view of Poole (U.S. Patent no. 6,158,431).

Without acknowledging the propriety of the rejection, Applicant has amended claim 4, from which claim 5 depends, so that claims 5 and 35 depend indirectly from allowable claim 34. In view of the above amendments, Applicant suggests that the above rejections are rendered moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 34, 38, and 39 are allowable over the prior art of record. Applicant is grateful for the indication of allowable subject matter.

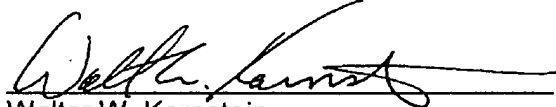
Claims 2-4, 7, 10, 12, and 21 have been amended so that claims 2-5, 7-14, and 35 depend from allowable claim 34, and claims 21, 36, and 37 depend from allowable claim 39. Applicant respectfully suggests that in view of the above amendments, claims 2-5, 7-14, 21, and 34-39 are in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

Applicant believes that this application is now in condition for allowance, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowability covering the pending claims. If the Examiner has any questions, or if a telephone interview would in any way advance prosecution of the application, please contact the undersigned attorney of record.

Respectfully submitted,

KOLISCH HARTWELL, P.C.



Walter W. Karnstein

Registration No. 35,565

520 S.W. Yamhill Street, Suite 200

Portland, Oregon 97204

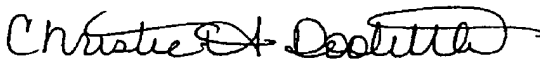
Telephone: (503) 224-6655

Facsimile: (503) 295-6679

Attorney for Applicant

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to Examiner S. Ali, Group Art Unit 3771, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, at facsimile number (571) 273-8300 on May 28, 2008.



Christie A. Doolittle